

REPORT OF A COMMITTEE

TO THE

IRON AND COAL

ASSOCIATION

OF THE

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

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PHILADELPHIA:

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1846

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# REPORT.

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At a Convention assembled in Philadelphia on January 9th, 1846, in pursuance of a call from the "Iron and Coal Association of the State of Pennsylvania," a committee was appointed to make "a Report upon the Iron and Coal Trade of this State, and their effect upon agriculture," to that association. This committee, from causes that it is needless to detail here, have done nothing whatever, up to this time, in discharge of the duties assigned to them. Under these circumstances the undersigned have been selected as a committee, from the association aforesaid, to make a report upon the subject referred to, and to publish the information and facts collected at the Convention. These facts were obtained by circulars addressed to almost every iron establishment in the State, within the knowledge of the committee, and from their replies has been selected the information now communicated; this information, so far as it goes, ought to command implicit confidence, as we have every reason to believe it accurate and precise. The hope was entertained at that Convention that returns would be obtained from every establishment in the State, and thus enable the committee, selected by that Convention, to embody such a volume of *facts* as would have greatly enlightened the public mind in relation to the magnitude and importance of those vast branches of our national industry, and without which a nation can neither be independent in Peace or War; for they are the agents of a civilization and intellectual happiness that has no limits or bounds. It has never been the wish of the manufacturers to theorize upon such subjects, but to furnish every day's experience, and to rest their cause entirely and exclusively upon results. Mr. McDuffee has said that the arguments upon the Tariff, used by its advocates, have been *stereotyped*, and it is true—they have been stereotyped as eternal truths and verified by universal experience—the only test of truth. The subject of the Tariff is so simple and plain to the practical operator, that he cannot conceive the art by which the opponents of it have involved it in so much mystery and difficulty. Their theories, and all the predictions which they have from time to time made, are constantly falsified by *experience*, and yet they cling to them



with more pertinacity. This cannot be better illustrated than by the present Tariff bill, which, when under discussion, they insisted was so highly *protective* that it would produce no revenue, and what has been the result? Has it not been *emphatically* a *Revenue Tariff*? and has it not raised the Government from Bankruptcy to their proper standing among the nations of the earth—from being a beggar both at home and abroad for a petty loan, to a full and overflowing Treasury? Has it not, at the same time, built up the commerce and agriculture of the country, and afforded the most remunerating prices for labor? and is there a cry of complaint from any portion of the free population of the country? If so, where are the memorials to Congress?

In 1839, the iron business was in a sound and healthy condition, and the attention of capitalists were largely attracted to it. It was in this year that the long sought discovery of using anthracite coal, as the combustible in the Furnaces and Rolling Mills, was perfected, and this discovery unlocked treasures, and by it a new impulse was given to the business throughout the land, and it was improved with our usual energy. It aroused the bituminous coal operators *from their sleep*, and introduced into our State that process of making coke pig iron which had so long been perfected in England, and which gave birth to so many splendid establishments.

At this period the price of iron and duty was as follows:—

	Bar Iron, English.	Duty.	Pig Metal. American.	Duty.	Blooms.	Duty.
1839	£10·0·0	\$21·00	\$33·00	\$8·50	\$75·00	23·00
1840	9·0·0	18·00	29·00	8·00	60·00	21·80
1841	7·0·0	“	“	“	“	“

In 1841, although the duty fell under the compromise bill only \$3·00 per ton on bar iron, and 50 cts. per ton on pig metal, from 1839, yet from the low price of iron in England, and the over production there, this reduction was felt in the trade throughout the land, and Congress was solicited at the extra session of that year to prevent the compromise bill from going fully into effect, as *the certain result of such a reduction of duties would be to paralyze the industry of the country and bring ruin upon all those engaged in the trade*; but the voice of the trade was disregarded, and prices fell accordingly—

July and August	Bar Iron, English.	Duty.	Pig Metal, American.	Duty.	Blooms.	Duty.
1842	£5·10	\$7·50	\$23·00	4·50	46·00	8·20
1843	4·10		19·00		38·00	

These prices tell to any intelligent mind their *own tale*—American bar iron was brought down in price from \$100 in 1839 to \$75·00.

Blooms from \$75·00 to \$38·00—Pig Metal from \$33·00 to \$19·00, and this stopped our Furnaces, our Rolling Mills, our Forges, our Foundries, our Cutlery establishments, and our workshops, and dismay and ruin pervaded the land. Nothing could be more dreary and desolate than the year 1842, and the voice of complaint and distress was heard from every part of our country, and is so deeply engraven upon the memory of every statesman, that it cannot be forgotten. It brought Congress to their senses, and they passed the bill of 1842, and which would have been passed by a *large majority*, if they had not connected with it the land question; this brought Congress into conflict with the acting President, who vetoed the bill twice, and violated every pledge which he had made to his party and country; but the western members nobly gave up their favorite measure, and the present Tariff bill was passed by a *union of Whig and Democratic votes*. This union gave us every assurance that the bill would be permanent and stable, and that every capitalist was free to invest his money, exercise his skill, and employ his time and thoughts, under the *pledged faith* of the Government; and let us now enquire what has been the result of this wise and sound legislation, and whether the manufacturers have improved their advantages.



By the census of 1840, the number of Furnaces in Pennsylvania was 213—Rolling Mills, Bloomeries and Forges 169. In March 1842, returns were procured, with great industry and labor, from the following seventy-nine of these Furnaces, being 72 Charcoal and 7 Anthracite Furnaces:

NAMES,	LOCATION AND PROPRIETORS.		Pig Iron.	No. of hands employed.
Hopewell Furnace,	Bedford Co.,	D. Loy & Co.	960	70
Sarah do.	“	“	1,282	74
Elizabeth do.	“	“	1,478	85
Hopewell do.	“	“ Milliken & Benedict,	800	60
Moslem do.	Berks	“ N V. R. Hunter,	600	60
Mount Penn do.	“	“ John Swartz,	1,000	73
Oley do.	“	“ A. U. Snyder,	800	65
Joanna do.	“	“ Darling & Smith,	700	80
Phoenixville do.	Chester	“ Reeves & Whittaker,	1,100	67
Warwick do.	“	“	400	56
Isabella do.	“	“ Potts & Rutter,	800	55
Greenwood do.	“	“	800	30
Logan do.	Centre	“ Valentines & Thomas,	1,100	70
Howard do.	“	“ Valentines, Harris, & Co.	1,200	70
Centre do.	“	“ James Irvin & Co.	1,200	70
Hecla do.	“	“ W. W. Houston & Co.	1,100	65
Eagle do.	“	“ R. Curtin & Sons,	1,100	65
Julianna do.	“	“ David Adams,	800	40
Washington do.	Clinton	“ Irvin, Pyle & Co.,	1,000	70
Lucinda do.	Clarion	“ J. Reynolds & Co.,	1,200	70
Shippensburg do.	“	“ Shippen & Black,	1,200	69
Beaver do.	“	“ Long, Blackston & Co.,	1,200	71
Madison do.	“	“ Mathiot, Miller & Co.,	1,000	70
Jefferson do.	“	“ A. Plummer & Co.,	800	60
Clarion do.	“	“ C. Myers,	1,200	70
Clinton do.	“	“ Claps & Semore,	1,000	70
Montour 3 do.	Columbia	“ Thomas Chambers,	7,800	175
Columbia do.	“	“ Patterson,	1,440	35
Roaring Cr'k do.	“	“ T. Dunlap,	1,450	36
Port Royal 2 do.	Dauphin	“ J. Jewett & Sons,	2,500	80
Mt. Pleasant do.	Franklin	“ S. Dunn,	150	20
Southampton do.	“	“ Chas. Wharton,	850	75
Carrick do.	“	“ Dunn & Bard,	400	40
Montalto do.	“	“ S. & H. Hughes,	800	120
Caledonia do.	“	“ J. D. Paxton & Co.,	800	75
Mill Creek do.	Hunting'n	“ J. H. Dorsey & Co.,	1,000	70
Springfield do.	“	“ S. Royer & Co.	1,200	75
Alleghany do.	“	“ E. Baker & Co.,	1,500	110
Etna do.	“	“ H. S. Spang,	1,200	80

NAMES.		LOCATION AND PROPRIETORS.		Pig Iron.	No. of hands employed.
Rebecca	do.	Hunting'n Co.	Shoenberger & Co.,	1,400	82
Huntingdon	do.	" "	"	1,700	92
Elizabeth	do.	Lancaster	" Coleman's Estate,	1,325	100
Mt. Vernon	do.	" "	E. B. Grubb,	1,450	75
Mt. Hope	do.	" "	"	1,450	75
Colebrook	do.	Lebanon	" Coleman's Estate,	1,500	120
Cornwall	do.	" "	"	1,500	100
Monroe	do.	" "	S. B. Seidel,	500	30
Catawissa	do.	Columbia	" Lloyd & Thomas,	700	41
Liberty	do.	" "	Thos. Dunlap,	1,000	70
Esther	do.	" "	"	1,500	110
Berwick	do.	" "	"	700	41
Pinegrove	do.	Cumberl'd	"	900	125
Brookland	do.	Mifflin	" M. Crisswell & Co.,	1,200	75
Matilda	do.	" "	Cottrell & Penn,	1,500	50
Union	do.	Hunting'n	"	1,250	68
Greenwood	do.	" "	Rawle & Hall,	1,000	56
Perry	do.	Perry	"	300	35
Juniata	do.	" "	Fisher & Co.,	500	45
Oak Grove	do.	" "	Pleiss,	600	60
Caroline	do.	" "	Fisher & Co.,	800	45
Montebello	do.	" "	do. do.	1,400	60
Swatara	do.	Schuylkill	" Eckert & Guilford,	1,400	75
Codorus	do.	York	" E. & C. B. Grubb,	1,400	75
Margaretta	do.	" "	H. Y. Slaymaker & Co.	900	90
York	do.	" "	S. R. Slaymaker & Co.	1,000	70
Maria	do.	North'ton	" Smith & Richards,	1,200	75
Jackson	do.	Venango	" Parker & Royer,	800	47
Venango	do.	" "	David Phipps,	700	45
		" "	Cross & McKee,	500	35
		" "	M. & J. McConnel,	500	37
		" "	L. R. Reno,	700	48
Van Buren	do.	" "	Hoye & Cross,	700	46
Slab	do.	" "	Jas. Hughes,	500	38
Webster	do.	" "	Dempsey & Wicks,	700	45
	do.	" "	C. Shippen,	800	48
Horse Creek	do.	" "	Bell & Davison,	500	38
Tons,				84,885	



From the following thirty-two Rolling Mills:

NAMES OF WORKS.		Location and Proprietors.		Bar Iron,	Boiler Plate.	Sheet Iron.	Nails;	No. hands employed.
	Rolling Mill,	Pittsburg,	H. S. Spang & Co.,	900	150	150	800	100
	" "	" "	Shoenberger & Co.,	3,000				150
	" "	" "	Lyon, Shorb & Co.,	2,000	250	250	500	150
	" "	" "	Bissell & Co.,	2,200			1,000	210
	" "	" "	Miltenberger,	1,500				80
	" "	" "	Laurentz & Co.,	2,000				100
	" "	" "	Kings, Higbee & Co.	500			1,000	80
	" "	" "	Smith, Royer & Co.,	500			1,000	80
W. Brandywine	" "	Chester co.			400			11
Caln	" "	" "				200		12
Triadelphia	" "	" "			400			12
Hibernia	" "	" "			400			10
Brandywine	" "	" "			400			11
Rokeby	" "	" "			400			11
Lowell	" "	" "		300		200	60	12
Bellfonte	" "	Centre	" Valentines & Thomas	900				12
Howard	" "	" "	" Valentines, Harris, Co.	900				12
Milesburg	" "	" "	" James Irvin & Co.,	900				12
Eagle	" "	" "	" R. Curtin & Sons,	900				12
Fairview	" "	Cumb'd	" A. O. Heister,	700			300	35
Duncannon	" "	Perry	" W. L. Fisher,	1,100			1,000	180
Montalto	" "	Franklin	" S. & H. Hughes,	500			100	25
Conshohocken	" "	Mont'y	" J. Wood & Son,	400		200		30
Norristown	" "	" "	" Reeves & Whitaker,				1,000	50
Reading	" "	Berks	" Keim, Whitaker & Co.	1,400			200	90
Phenixville Nail Factory,		Chester	" Reeves & Whitaker,				1,300	52
Mason's	" "	" "	" R. W. Mason & Co.,				1,000	42
Lowell	" "	" "					60	16
Brandywine	" "	" "					100	6
Vartie Rolling Mill,		Lancaster,	Coleman's Estate,	200		200	600	40



From the following fifty-four forges:—

NAMES OF WORKS.		LOCATIONS AND PROPRIETORS.	Bar Iron.	Boiler Plate.	No. hands employed.
Bedford	Forges.	Bedford, S. King & Co.,	307	140	40
Hopewell	"	" D. Loy & Co.,	200	150	30
Do.	"	" Milliken & Benedict,	200	100	25
Maria, 3	"	" Shoenberger & Co.,	2,081		107
Martha	"	" Do.,	922		55
Dowell	"	Berks, J. Sidel,	300		25
Union	"	" George Regan,		40	8
Rockland	"	" A. U. Snyder,		100	20
Gibraltar, 3	"	" S. Seyfort,	500	140	58
North Kill	"	" Joseph Seyfort,	450		40
Coventry	"	Chester,	225		14
Springton	"	"	325		15
Hibernia	"	"	300		17
Mary Ann	"	"		200	17
Pleasant Garden	"	"		200	16
Bellefonte	"	Centre, Valentines & Thomas,	900		45
Howard	"	" Valentines, Harris & Co.,	900		45
Milesburg	"	" James Irvin & Co.,	800		45
Eagle	"	" R. Curtin & Sons,	700		35
Washington	"	Clinton, Irvin, Pyle & Co.,	300	100	40
Calawissa	"	Columbia,		150	15
Berwick	"	"		200	20
Liberty	"	Cumbl'd, H. G. Moser & Co.,	325		25
Laurel	"	"	250	200	40
Valley	"	Franklin,		60	20
London	"	"		60	20
Mount Pleasant	"	" Dunn & Bard,	60	120	18
Montalto	"	" S. & H. Hughes,		500	40
Caledonia	"	" S. D. Paxton & Co.,	35	195	23
Barree	"	Hunt'don, S. M. Green & Co.,	900		60
Franklin	"	" S. Royer,	450		25
Etna	"	" H. S. Spang,	800		60
Antes	"	" Graham & McCamant,	400		30
Juniata	"	"	1,225		58
Speedwell	"	Lanc'ster, J. Reynolds,		250	30
White Rock	"	" J. Alexander,		200	20
Vartic, 3	"	" Coleman's Estate,	1,000		65
Union	"	Lebanon, J. B. Weidman,		200	25
Monroe	"	" J. B. Seidel,	200		25
Freedom	"	Mifflin, Rawle & Hall,	650		33
Brookland	"	" M. Crisswell & Co.,	700		70
Rebecca	"	" Rogers & Co.,	325		17
Fio	"	Perry,	450	100	45
Berwick	"	Schuykill, D. Focht,		100	25
Hecla	"	" P. & M. Jones,		100	20
Castle Finn	"	York, Coleman's Estate,	125	250	45
Spring	"	" J. Harmer,		250	50
Woodstock	"	" H. Y. Slaymaker & Co.,	420		45

These furnaces, it will be perceived from actual returns, had been or were capable of producing 84,885 tons of pig metal; being an average of 1,074 tons to the furnace. But as this list embraced some large anthracite furnaces and the best of all the charcoal, the make of the remainder was small in comparison, and we shall therefore estimate it at 500 tons to the furnace, (134 furnaces) which will give us 67,000

tons more, being the make of only 62 good Furnaces, the names and returns of some of which we are able to furnish :

	NAMES.	LOCATIONS.	PROPRIETORS.	Tons.
1	Pennsylvania,	Huntingdon County,	Lyon, Shorb & Co.,	1,500
2	Bald Eagle,	Do. "		
3	Blossburg,	Tioga "		
4	Mauch Chunk,	Lehigh "	Smith & Richards,	600
5	Manda,	Dauphin "	Robinson,	1,980
6	Mill Hall,	Chester "	Reynolds & Morris,	
8	Martha,	Centre "	Curtain,	
9	Helen,	Clarion "	Barber & Packer,	
10	Sarah,	Bedford "	Shoenberger,	1,500
11	Sally Ann,	Berks "	Hunter,	
12	Lehigh,	Lehigh "	S. Balliett & Co.,	833
13	East Penn,	Carbon "	Do.	800
14	Cumberland,	Cumberland "	Miller,	800
15	Green Lane,	Montgomery "		
16	Monroe,	Lebanon "	J. Seidell,	
17	Mary,	Franklin "	Boyce & Wharton,	700
18	Maple,	Butler "	G. Boward & Co.,	
19	Conowingo,	Lancaster "	Hopkins,	800
20	Reading,	Berks "	Robinson,	1,500
21	Carbon,	Carbon "	S. Colwell,	
22	Victoria,	Dauphin "	H. M. Bazard	700
23	Emeline,	Do. "	Do.	700
24	Root,	Lancaster "	Brooks,	
25	Big Pond,	Cumberland "	Moore,	670
26	Carlisle,	Do. "	M. Ege's Estate,	700
27	Mary Ann,	Do. "	E. Jackson & Co.,	1,200
28	Augusta,	Do. "		
29	Earl Far,	Berks "	Spang,	540
30	Julianna,	Centre "	Jno. Adams,	
31	Mary Ann,	Berks "	H. Trexler,	
32	Chester,	Chester "	Pennypacker,	

Making the entire product 151,885 tons of pig metal; provided all these furnaces had been in active operation, but the fires of most of them had been extinguished.

This being their make previous to 1842, it is fair to suppose that these same furnaces, from the large use of the hot blast, economy of fuel, iron blowing cylinders and *high prices*, have increased at least twenty-five per cent.; which will give us a make for those furnaces of 189,856 tons. Now, to this we must add the new works that have been erected since 1840, and those not reported from in 1842, and which are as follows:—



*List of Charcoal Furnaces in Pennsylvania built since 1840.*

Built.	Erecting	Names of Works.	Proprietor's Name.	Location. County.	When Erected.	Prod't in 1845. Tons.	Capa- city. Tons.
1		Gap	Shoenberger	Huntingdon,	1845	1,500	1,500
1		Cambria	P. Shoenbrger	Cambria	1844	1,500	1,500
1		Bloomfield	do.	Bedford	1846	1,050	1,050
1		Pike	Lansom, Duff & Orr	Clarion	1845		1,700
1		Anandale	Hunter & Sproul	Mercer	1843	600	600
1		Middlesex	Senate, Grey & Co.	do.	1845		1,200
1		Clay	Hennond & Vincent	do.	"		1,200
1		Martha	Powel & Sons	do.	1844	800	800
1		Big Bend	McFarland & Fling	do.	1845		1,000
0	5	Erecting in Mercer	Names unknown	do.	1845		4,000
1		Mahoning	Shunk & Calwell	Armstrong	"		1,000
1		Elk	Wm. B. Fitzhugh	Clarion	1843	800	1,000
1		Deer Creek	Kerr & Hasson	do.	1844	1,000	1,100
1		Buchanan	Plummer, Creasy & Co.	do.	1844	1,000	2,000
1		Mary Ann	John Black & Co.	do.	1845	800	1,000
1		Polk	C. Meyer	do.	1845		1,000
1		Slygo	Lyan, Shorb & Co.	do.	"		1,500
1		Washington	Henry Blackstone & Co.	do.	"		1,000
1		Tippecanoe	Black & Maxwell	do.	"		1,000
1		Cohego	John & Samuel Wilson	do.	"		1,000
1		Limestone	Jacob B. Lyan & Co.	do.	"		1,000
1		Wild Cat	Flick & Lawson	do.	"		1,000
2		Callinsburg	Alexander & Co.	do.	"		1,000
1		Monroe	Cochran & Fulton	do.	"		1,000
1		Hemlock	Fitzu & McGuire	do.	"		2,000
1		Perry	Welsh & Co.	do.	"		1,000
1		Licking Creek	Ohler, Ligworth & Co.	do.	"		1,200
1			John Nott	Bedford	"		750
1		Christiana,	John Gamber	Dauphin	"		1,250
1		Red Bank	Reynolds & Ritchie	Armstrong	1843	1,600	2,000
1		Indiana	Elias Baker	Huntingdon	1843	1,400	1,750
1		Lemnos	Wm. Lane	Bedford	"	230	500
2		Elizabeth	J. M. Bell	Huntingdon	1842	800	1,200
1		Brady's Bend, (coke)	Great Western Co.	Armstrong	1840-2-5	5,134	10,000
1		Mount Vena (Pero)	Leiss	Schuylkill	1841	600	1,000
1		Temperance	J. Ward & Co.	Mercer	"	500	1,200
1		Leesburg	Crawford & Co.	Do.		500	
1		Windsor	Darragh & Jones	Berks	"	500	900
1		Winchester	Davis & Beaty		1846		1,000
39	5					22,214	50,000
4		New furnaces in Mercer county, not included above,					4,000
				Forward		22,214	54,000

*List of Charcoal Furnaces in Pennsylvania.—CONTINUED.*

Built.	Erecting	Names of Works.	Proprietors' Names.	Location. County.		Prod'ct in 1845 Tons.	Capa- city. Tons.
43	5				Forward	22,214	54,000
1		Franklin	Reynolds & Co.	Venango		1,000	1,000
1		Union	Williams & Looper	do.			1,000
1		Valley	Lee & Rhodes	do.			1,000
1		Texas	Wm. Porter	do.			1,000
1		Clay	Edward Evans	do.			1,000
1		Victory	A. & A. D. Bonnear	do.			1,000
1		Roymelton	A. W. Raymond	do.			1,000
1		Clintonville	W. Cross	do.			1,000
1		Slab	Jas. Hughes	do.			1,000
1		Mill Creek	Chas. Shippen	do.		1,200	1,200
1		Rockland	Spear	do.			1,000
1		Sandy Creek	McKee & Harris	do.			1,000
1		President	Klapp	do.			1,000
1		Bulyon	P. Rarradon & Co.	do.			1,000
1		Clinton	Moore & Seymour	do.			1,000
1			Bakers	Cambria		1,000	1,000
1			McKeenan & Co.	" Lockport		1,000	1,000
	1		Livegood, Linten & Co.	" Johnst'n			1,000
	1		Huber, Linton & Co.	Somerset			1,000
1		Mill Creek	King, Shoenberger & Bell	" Milerun		1,000	1,000
1		New Furnace	do.	Cambria		1,000	1,000
1		Shade Furnace	do.	Somerset, on		1,000	1,000
2			Stewart, Riter & Co.	Paint creek.		1,000	1,000
				Cambria		2,000	2,000
65	7				Tons	31,414	78,100
					Men	1,687	4,230
					Horses	740	2,200

These sixty-five charcoal and two coke furnaces will give us *a product* for this year of at least 75,200 tons.



*List of new Anthracite Furnaces in Pennsylvania.*

Built.	Erecting.	Names of Works.	Proprietors' Names.	Product in 1845. No. of tons returned.	Capacity. Tons for 1846.
2	1	Lehigh Crane Iron Works	Crane Iron Company	7,100	13,000
3		Phoenix Works	Reeves, Buck & Co.	1,210	9,000
1		Pioneer	G. G. Palmer	860	1,800
2		Glendon Iron Works	Charles Jackson	4,324	6,500
1		Henry Clay	Eckert & Brother	960	4,000
1	1	Montour Works	Montour Iron Co.		5,000
1		Shawnee	Holmes, Myers & Co.	1,085	1,750
2		Bloomsburg	Paxton, Fisher & Co.		9,000
1		Harrisburg	David R. Porter	1,505	3,500
1		Wm. Penn	Livingston & Lyman	300	3,500
1		Mauch Chunk	Geateau & Co.		1,000
1		Valley	Pomeroy & Harrison		1,750
1		Spring Mill	Farr & Kunze	1,600	2,500
1		Conshohocton	Calwell & Elliot		3,500
1		Shamokin	Shamokin Iron Co.		2,500
1		Chickawoling	E. Halderman & Co.		2,500
1		Halderman	P. Halderman's		2,500
2		Elizabeth	F. Goodill	1,500	3,500
1	1	Saint Clare	Burd Patterson		3,500
1	1	Lackawanna	Scranton	2,000	5,000
1		Sarah Ann	Porter & Stewart	400	2,000
1		Red Point	Samuel R. Wood		3,750
1		Birdsboro'	E. & G. Brooks		1,750
	1	Seyfert & McGuarn's			3,500
	2		Bevan & Humphrey	9000	7,000
	1		Coleman		3,500
33	5				
28	8	—36 furnaces	1845 22,844 tons,	22,844	107,200

*New Anthracite Rolling Mills.—Annual Manufacture.*

			Tons.
1.	Wilkesbarre—Thatcher T. Payne, Rail Road and Plate,		6,000
2.	Montour—Murdoch, Leavitt & Co. { Do. Actual product,		10,000
		{ Do. Plate,	1,000
3.	Reading—Sabbata & Co.,	Axles,	
4.	Do. Jones & Co.,	Small Iron,	} 1,000
5.	Little Schuylkill,	Do.	500
6.	Pottsgrove,	Rail Road Iron,	2,000
7.	Norristown,	Rail Road Iron,	3,000
8.	Schuylkill, Phil'a—Thomas & Co.,	Small Iron,	2,000
9.	Manayunk,	Plate,	500
10.	Phoenixville,	Rail Road Iron,	6,000
13.	Delaware, 3 near Phil'a,	Plate,	3,000
14.	Harrisburg,		1,500
		COKE.	
15.	Brady's Bend, { Rail Road Iron, actual product,		5,000
	Great Western Co., { Plate,		1,000

The account for 1846 will therefore stand thus :

Charcoal	206	173,369 T.	
Anthracite	7	16,487 T.	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	213	189,856 T.	
Furnaces up to 1842	213	Anthracite 16,487 T.	189,856 T.
New Charcoal since do	67		75,200 T.
New Anthracite do	36		103,000 T.
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	316		368,056 T.
Increase on Old Furnaces		37,971 T.	
Do do New do		178,200 T.	
		<hr/>	
		216,171 T.	

More than 100 per cent. since the bill of 1842. This prodigious increase of the business has, of course, called for a large investment and employment of capital, which, after much reflection and experience, we estimate at \$47·00 per ton for every ton of charcoal pig metal manufactured ; this would therefore give on 75,200 tons \$3,534,400 ; and for every ton of anthracite pig metal \$25·00 per ton \$2,575,000—making the enormous sum of six millions one hundred and nine thousand and four hundred dollars, invested in furnaces alone, since 1842. The aggregate capital, therefore, would be calculated upon the same estimate :

			Capital.
Charcoal Furnaces previous to 1842	173,369 T.		8,148,343
Anthracite Do Do	16,487 T.		412,075
			<hr/>
New	75,200 T.		8,560,418
	103,000 T.		6,109,400
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	368,056 T.		\$14,669,818

This quantity 368·056 T. at \$30 per ton, would be worth \$11,040,000  
 It is probable that one half of this metal is converted into bar, hoop, sheet, boiler iron, and nails, at a cost of at least \$50 per ton more.

9,201,400  


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 millions 20,201,400

Capital for conversion at \$20 per ton 3,680,460

The other half into castings at \$20 per ton,

3,680,560 Do at \$10 1,840,280

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\$23,921,960

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20,190,658



And where does this enormous sum of money go, and how is it expended? All in labor and agricultural products—for of what materials is iron composed—coal, limestone, iron ores, sand, and fire-clay—almost worthless unless converted into iron. The number of men employed in producing the above iron, would be in the charcoal operations one man to every twenty tons, and in the anthracite one man to every twenty-four tons of pig metal. This includes all the miners of coal and limestone, wood-choppers, &c., &c. Upon this estimate there would be employed—Charcoal 12,428, Anthracite 4,978 17,406. Allowing a wife and four children as sustained by this labor, we have a population of 87,030. To which, if we add the labor employed in its conversion into bars, hoops, sheets, boiler plate, nails, castings, railway iron, &c., &c., which would more than double those *directly* dependent, we should have upon this supposition 174,060 men, women and children. But when we look still further at the labor created by this business in railways, canals, &c., who can estimate it—both of man and horse?

Has not this increase of business been sufficient to satisfy the most ardent mind, and to realise ten-fold the predictions of the friends of that bill? Indeed this increase is only the result of two years, for so great was the depression and prostration of all the industry of the country, that the trade did not revive until 1844. During 1843, it will be perceived from the prices which we have given of iron during that year, that it was at the *lowest* point—the bottom of the wheel—and that although each revolution after 1843 brought up the price, yet it was very slow and gradual, and we are not aware of any new erections until 1844. The price of English iron remaining during the year 1844 at £5·0·0, and railway iron at £4·10·0. The most gratifying result in this increase of business however is the progress which we have made in the manufacture of railway iron, for it was asserted by even some of the friends of the Tariff that so high a degree of skill and invention was necessary to manufacture this iron, that we must continue our deplorable dependence upon England for it—that we had neither “the minds to devise or hands to execute any such work”—that any attempt to make it, in the present infancy of our manufactures, would be disastrous, unless aided by a farther bounty from the Government. But fortunately for us, this speedy production of it has settled this question, and shown that American energy and perseverance is equal to any work that can be accomplished by any other people in manufacturing pursuits. How supremely ridiculous to entertain the idea of an importation of materials for the construction of the roads of a coun-



try, and particularly such a country as ours, where these massive rails are to be stretched from one limit of the country to the other—East and West, North and South—in every direction, and wherever occasion may exist, and a dense and thriving population may demand, passage or transportation.

It is not only gratifying that we have furnished this evidence of our skill and energy, but still more so that we have actually sold it at a *less price here* than it could be imported *free of duty*. When railway iron advanced in England to £15·10, \$77·50, the Mount Savage Iron Works in Maryland were at this time furnishing it at fifty-nine dollars per ton, delivered at Baltimore to the Fall River Company, in Massachusetts. The English iron, with a twenty per cent. duty, would have cost them at that time \$97·50 per ton. We are now manufacturing, as it appears from the returns herewith made, of railway iron, in this State alone, 15,000 tons per annum, and so strong is the disposition to embark capital largely in this manufacture, that we entertain no doubt that the supply of railway iron from our own establishments in 1847, *will be equal to the wants of the country*, and this will all have been accomplished in about *three years*, and we challenge the world for a like result. This iron will be manufactured entirely from our mineral coal metal, and thus open, for works of that description, an endless field—leaving to the charcoal works the manufacture of the smaller sizes of iron, and all that is requisite for the finer purposes of cutlery, &c. We are glad to find in the mills that are now being erected, that it is the intention of the Proprietors to confine their manufacture exclusively to railway iron, which will soon bring it to the highest perfection, and reduce its cost to the lowest figure. It has been this same system under high duties that perfected our manufacture of *nails*, which, when the duty was five cents per pound, were selling at 3½ to 4 cents, notwithstanding Mr. McDuffie's theory to the contrary—that the *duty* was always added to the cost of manufacture. The perfection of this manufacture has been so complete as to defy the competition of the world, and its magnitude is almost beyond belief. As we have never yet seen in print a list of the nail works, and their product, we furnish the following, under the hope that it may lead some person of leisure to perfect it.



State.	Place.	Names.	Machines.	Proprietors.	Kegs.
Maine, Massachusetts,	Saco,				15 000
	Dover,				10,000
	Boston,	Boston Iron Co.,		Horace Gray, (burnt,)	40,000
		Weith Iron Co.,			10 000
	Weymouth,	W. Iron Co.,		Lazell, Parkins & Co.	35,000
	Bridgewater,			do. do. do.	15 000
	Fall River,	F. R. Iron Works,		Borden Manager,	60,000
	Taunton,	Old Colony,		Crocker & Brother,	40,000
	Plymouth,			Russell,	20,000
	Braintree,			Randall & Howard,	20,000
Connecticut, New York,	Wareham,	Agawam Nail Co.,	29	S. T. Tisdale & Co.,	35 000
	Do.	Washington,		Haywood and others,	30,000
	Do.	Tihonet,		Parker,	10,000
				Toby,	10,000
	Norwich,				8,000
	Troy,	Albany Iron and Nail Works,	34	E. Corning & Co.,	20,000
	Do.	Troy Iron and Nail Works,	28	H. Burden & Co.,	12,000
		Peru Iron Co.,		Saltus & Co.,	20,000
		Sable Iron Works,		Royers & Co.,	30,000
		Keesville Man. Co.,		Hurlbut,	10,000
New Jersey, Pennsylvania,		Eagle Nail Co.,		Kingsland,	15,000
	Clintonville,		25		20,000
	Forks,		28		20,000
	Bridgeton,	Cumberland,	47	Reeves, Buck & Co.,	40,000
	Norristown,	Nor. Works,	29	Reeves, Buck & Co.,	25,000
	Phoenixville,	Phoenix Works,	38	do. do.	35,000
	Phoenixville,	Sansinak,	20	Jaudons & Mason,	18,000
	Reading,	R. Iron Works,	24	Seifert, M' Manus, & Co	20,000
	Port. Iron works	Portagelo,		McMarnara & Royer,	14,000
	Easton,		12	Rodenbaugh Stew't co	10,000
	N. Castle,		12	Crawford & Co.,	8,000
	Farrandsville,	Franklin,	20	Lyman & Co.,	10,000
	Bellefonte,		18	3 small works,	6,000
	Colebrookdale,	Colebrook,			8 000
		Mount Alto,	12	H. Hughes,	6,000
	Harrisburg,	Duncannan,	28	Morgan and Fisher,	25 000
	Coutesville,		6	Buckley & Co.,	3,000
	Delaware Co.,		8	Edwards,	4,000
	Brownsville,				20,000
	Lancaster,	Colemanville,		E. T. Coleman,	6,000
Maryland,	Wilkesbarre,		24		12,000
	Milesburg,	Eagle,		C. & J. Curtain,	1,000
	Pittsburg,	Allegheny Iron Works,	14	Russell, Sample & Co.,	14,000
		Etna,		Sproug & Son,	16,000
			30	J. Shoenberger,	40,000
			27	King & Higby,	20,000
			17	Miller & Brown,	12,000
			14	Smith, Rogers & Co.,	10,000
		Kensington Works,	20	Freeman, Miller & Co.	16,000
		Birmingham,	4	Wood, M'Knight & Co.,	2,000
Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio,		Sligo Works,	10	Lyons, Short & Co.,	8,000
			20	Cuddy & Co.,	16,000
				Bissell & Co.,	20,000
				Smith, Boyer & Co.,	20,000
Maryland,	Franklin Co.,			Hughes,	2,000
	Ellicottsville,	Avalon,	24	Ellicotts,	28,000
	Gunpowder,		19	Pattersons,	5,000
Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio,		Ateatem,	13	J. McBrian,	2,000
	Elkton,			Whit'ker, Garret & Co.	15 000
	Richmond,	Belle Isle,	22	J. R. Triplett & Son.,	25,000
Virginia, South Carolina, Ohio,				Nesbit, 2 factories,	
	Cincinnati,				
Kegs					1062,000



P. S. This statement was made out from the quantities known to have come into market in certain years with some exceptions, and may be considered at least 25 per cent. less on the average than was made from the above works. When fully employed, the yearly product may be taken fairly at 1,000 kegs for each machine per annum. In the West and at some of the interior factories, where the nails run fewer to the pound than at the North, the average would be nearer 1,100 kegs each machine. The quantities set down above therefore are about 25 to 30 per cent. less than the capacity of the Factories. A number of Works have been omitted for want of information. There are several on the Ohio River, about which nothing accurate is known. The make of last year (1845) is believed by well-informed dealers in New York to have been over 1,500,000.

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But, to return to railway iron, let us ask our opponents, and particularly the Honorable Chairman of the Committee of the Senate, who in the session of 1843-44 reported a bill to remit the duties upon railway iron, what would now have been the price of this iron in England if the bill of 1842 had not passed, and brought into existence our splendid establishments, and we had been dependent, as we should have been, upon England for our entire supply. But it may be said that our demand is so trifling, that it would not have advanced prices; but let us hear the English Mining and Railroad Journal upon this subject—a work of the highest authority in England. They say, in June 1843,—“That the demand for railroad iron in this country (England) is comparatively trifling, while America, which in 1839 took nearly one-third of our exports, now, from the uncertain state of the Tariff, and *loss of credit*, does but little to assist us, and this is the only foreign country to which we can look as being of sufficient weight to have any *effect* upon our Home Market.” But if the Tariff of 1842 had not passed, *three fourths* of our entire consumption of 600,000 tons would have been added to their present demand, and who could even imagine its *effect* upon English prices? For it will be perceived by an attentive examination of English statistics, from that time to this, notwithstanding their high prices, more than double those of 1843 and 1844, that they have increased their manufacture only about 500,000 tons. In 1840 they manufactured 1,500,000 tons, and the highest estimate of 1846 is 2,000,000 tons—less than 100,000 tons per annum; and one half of this increase is in Scotland, which latter iron is entirely unfit for malleable bar iron or railway iron, and is used exclusively for Foundries.



From our experience and results in this trade, can any man doubt that to reduce the duties to thirty per cent. *ad valorem*, would destroy the entire business? For the effect of a low rate of duty upon iron has always been, that, whenever the manufacturing industry of England becomes depressed, their surplus stock must be thrown upon us *at less* than the cost of production, and thus stop our furnaces and mills, throw our labor out of employment, and degrade it to the condition of foreign labor; and this fluctuation of prices is very sudden, and runs to great extremes. Competition at home operates very differently, even when stimulated to the highest extent—for it works gradually, and produces no derangement of the currency; our specie is retained amongst ourselves, and only changes hands, and does not take from the consumer all ability to purchase or to pay; and at no period in the history of the country is this surplus product to be more dreaded than at the *present*, for the high prices, both in this country and England, has stimulated the production to an enormous extent, and reduced prices must be the consequence before six months have elapsed. Stocks are now accumulating largely in Scotland, and the Mining Journal of January 30th, 1846, says,—“That it will be remembered that in 1842 (a year memorable to them) the amount of pig metal, exported from *Glasgow* alone, was 70,000 tons, and it is a *painful* fact, that since 1842 the exportation of pig iron has all but ceased. Under these circumstances we are at a loss to conceive how our surplus iron is to be disposed of;”—and what will be the effect of this overtrading and surplus stock, if it can be exported here under a thirty per cent. *ad valorem* duty?—which is no duty whatever—for at the time it is most needed it is *lowest*. Specific duties are the only check which we have upon fraud and perjury—abandon them and you have effectually prostrated the trade, and placed us entirely in the hands of unscrupulous foreigners. But let us see how this *ad valorem* duty will work. In June 1824, bar iron in England was £7·0·0 per ton, and in January 1825, the price was £14·0·0 per ton, and it fell the same year to £10. In 1826 and 1827, the highest quotation was £9, while in 1832 it fell to £4·15. In June 1844, the price was £6·0·0—in April £9·15—July £7·15, and in October £8·15—December £10. Thus it will be seen that in 1832, thirty per cent. duty would have produced \$6·84 per ton, while in December 1844, it would have been \$14·40, and in January 1824, \$20·16.

The production of iron depending essentially upon the use of coal for smelting and elaborating it, renders “that good gift of nature” scarcely less important than iron, and hence closely connected with a proper consideration of the latter.



In relation to the coal trade, we are happy to avail ourselves, to some extent, of statistics recently published in the Miner's Journal of Pottsville, and which may be relied upon. That trade, it appears, suffered earlier than the iron trade, by the reduction of duties in 1838 and 1839, and was deeply affected at a time when the duty on foreign coal was much higher than that proposed by the bill now reported to Congress.

In 1838 the quantity of anthracite coal sent to market from all the regions of the State, was,—

	Tons.	Price at Phila.	Labor.	Foreign Coal Imported.
	723,836			129,083 T.
1839—	817,659			181,551 T.
1840—	865,414	\$5.50	\$5 to 6.00 per week	162,067 T.
1841—	956,566	5.00		155,394 T.
1842—	1,108,001	4.25		141,521 T.
1843—	1,263,539	3.50		41,163 T.
1844—	1,631,669	3.37	\$8 to 10 per week	87,073 T.
1845—	2,021,674	3.50		85,776 T.

With this vast increase of the business, and advance of the wages of labor, (notwithstanding the opinion of the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury to the contrary) being from 20 to 40 per cent.;—yet it will be perceived that coal had been yearly reduced in price from 1842; and this arose from the confidence inspired by the bill of that year—attracting capital largely to the trade, by which all the improvements of the age were introduced, labor saving machines, &c., and by perfecting all the facilities of transportation, which latter will now compare with that of any other country in the world. But it may be asked, what can affect this trade? We answer, *Mines*—that challenge the competition of the world, both in abundance and quality—the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick coal fields, which, unlike ours, are accessible by water, and the coal of which may be transported at a small cost to every part of our Atlantic coast. Our coal fields, although unsurpassed in richness and extent, are in the interior of the country, and although capital and enterprise has furnished us, as we have said, every facility of transportation to bring these vast and inexhaustible resources to our Atlantic border, yet the *transportation alone* is equal to the cost of the Nova Scotia coal, \$1.50 per ton, delivered into the vessel—to which, if the duty of thirty per cent. be added, we have \$1.95 as the cost—\$1.55 less than the anthracite can be sold and delivered, at ship-board in Philadelphia; and we need not ask whether this



would not prove ruinous to the trade, destructive to the wages of labor and confer only a temporary advantage on the consumer. But let us see the investments in this trade, and whether it is worth preserving.

“This table,” says the Miners’ Journal, “was prepared with great care while Congress was deliberating upon the present Tariff bill, and showed the state of the trade previous to the passage of that bill.—At that time the investment of capital in the trade of Schuylkill county was estimated to be \$17,526,000—it now reaches \$26,856,000, showing an increase of *more than one half* within four years. It will also be observed by the statistics below, that the consumption of Produce and Merchandize has also nearly doubled within the same period.

But the most important bearing of the Tariff of 1842 on the coal trade of this county is yet to be noticed.

In 1837 the quantity of coal sent to market from Schuylkill county was,	tons	540,000
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In 1842 the trade had increased to only		572,000
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Increase in a period of six years, only *thirty-two thousand tons*.

In 1845, the quantity sent to market from this county reached	tons	1,132,000
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In 1842,		572,000
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Increase in only <i>three years</i> ,	tons	560,000
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*It having nearly doubled within a period of three years, under the protective policy of the country; while, under the free trade, or low duty system, which existed from 1838 to 1843,\* a period of six years, the increase in the trade was only thirty-two thousand tons.*

\* Although the present Tariff bill was passed and took effect on the first of July 1842, it did not create an increased demand for coal until 1843; though its effect on the trade was instantaneous in the confidence it invested to future operations.

*Statistics of the Coal Trade of Schuylkill County.*

Capital invested in 81 miles of Incorporated Railroads	\$1,000,000
do do 50 do of Individual do.	150,000
do do 50 do under ground do.	60,000
1500 Railroad Cars,	150,000
2400 Drift Cars,	96,000
34 Collieries below water level, with Steam Engines,	
Pumps, &c.,	850,000
100 Collieries above water level,	500,000
Landings,	200,000
Boats and Boat Horses,	500,000
Working Capital,	300,000
Schuylkill Canal,	5,000,000
Reading Railroad, Cars, Engines, &c.,	10,250,000
Towns in the Coal Region,	3,000,000
Danville and Pottsville Railroad,	800,000
80,000 Acres Coal Land at \$50 per acre,	4,000,000

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\$26,856,000

Estimated investment for same items in 1842,	17,526,000
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Increase in 4 years with Protection,	\$9,330,000
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Tons of Coal sent to market in 1845,	1,131,724
Consumed in the region, about	75,000

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Total tons,	1,206,724
Sent in 1841,	620,345

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Increase—almost doubled in 4 years,	586,379
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The population of the coal region of Schuylkill county is now almost 25,000. There are also about 2,000 horses used in the trade in the region.

*Agricultural Products consumed in the Coal Region in 1845.*

Wheat and Flour,	\$187,000
Corn, Rye and Buckwheat,	180,000
Oats,	70,000
Hay,	80,000
Straw,	6,000
Beef and Pork,	260,000



Potatoes, . . . . .	30,000
Poultry, . . . . .	25,000
Butter, . . . . .	23,000
Lard, . . . . .	7,000
Milk, . . . . .	35,000
Eggs, . . . . .	8,000
Vegetables, Apples, Peaches, Turnips, Onions, &c.,	50,000
	<hr/>
	\$961,000
Consumption in 1841, . . . . .	588,000
	<hr/>
Increase in 4 years, . . . . .	\$373,000

*Merchandise consumed in 1845.*

Groceries, . . . . .	\$750,000
Dry Goods—foreign and domestic, . . . . .	625,000
Boots and Shoes, . . . . .	100,000
Drugs, Glass and Dye Stuffs, &c., . . . . .	40,000
Hats and Caps, . . . . .	40,000
Saddlery, . . . . .	15,000
Nails and Spikes, . . . . .	20,000
Bar, Pig and Boiler Iron, . . . . .	75,000
Railroad Iron, . . . . .	50,000
Stone and Hollow ware, . . . . .	10,000
Confectionery, . . . . .	15,000
Jewelry, . . . . .	8,000
Books, Stationery and Paper, . . . . .	10,000
	<hr/>
	\$1,758,000
Consumption in 1841, . . . . .	918,000
	<hr/>
Increase in 4 years, . . . . .	\$840,000

The quantity of Oil included in Groceries is a pretty considerable item. It is estimated that the quantity consumed in the region last year was worth at least *one hundred and sixty thousand dollars.*"

Can any mind contemplate the results of this vast industry—the labor employed—the capital expended—the railroads and canals which it sustains—the water powers and privileges which it has improved—the steam engines which it has put into motion—the furnaces, rolling mills, collieries, and woollen establishments, which it has built up—the towns and villages which it has created—and be disposed to annihilate these great branches of national industry? If so, what will the



laborers of the country say, for both iron and coal are the embodiment of labor? both are of little value, as we have before remarked, in the ground, but so necessary to the wants of civilized life as to have made England the mistress of the world, and all that world her debtors. They call more largely, and are more dependent, upon the other branches of industry for their support, than any other class of industrial pursuits. They have also arisen and flourished most where nature seemed to have doomed the country to everlasting sterility, and this fact brought from the good and great Wilberforce, in defending the iron interest in Parliament in 1797, the remark,—“That he had never felt a more sensible pleasure in his life than when, after the lapse of a few years, he had returned to a spot once rugged and barren, but then covered by the fruits of human industry, and gladdened by the face of man, in consequence of the introduction of this manufacture.” Coal effects much, but nothing in comparison with iron. It is this manufacture that makes the wilderness blossomlike the rose, and covers the barren hills not only with flowers, but also with flourishing villages. To illustrate this, we shall take the Schuylkill Coal Field, upon which there has been expended in railways, canals, &c., (all necessary for the iron business,) upwards of 26 millions, to bring to market 1,300,000 tons of coal, which is worth at Pottsville \$2.00 per ton, or \$2,600,000. The labor to mine and deliver this coal does not exceed 5,000 men. Now the single iron establishment of a private individual in England, Mr. Crawshay, employs 6,000 men, and manufactures upwards of 1500 tons of bar and railway iron per week; estimating this iron at the present prices of £10.0 or \$50.00 (in England) per ton, we have a production or export trade of \$3,750,000—exceeding that of the entire coal trade by one million one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in money, and 1,000 more in laborers; and this establishment would eat up, annually, 375,000 tons of coal, 262,500 tons of ore, and 75,000 tons of limestone, and the English coal field is dotted over with such establishments; and all this population of laborers are consumers; and what must be the effect of these two trades upon agriculture, that *main* spring of national prosperity? Is it not too clear to admit of argument,—“That if the American farmer give a product upon which he has employed a certain amount of labor and capital, to an American manufacturer in exchange for an American product, which has employed another equal amount of American labor and capital, the operation puts in motion *twice* as much *American* labor and capital as if he gave the same product to a foreign manufacturer, in exchange for a foreign product, which has employed an equal amount of foreign labor



and capital?" This being admitted, and it being equally true, that *labor* is the wealth of a State and the source of all prosperity, and that the laborers of manufactures must be entirely consumers and not producers, is not the agriculturist directly benefited by this increase of the labor of the country, and just in proportion to the demand for it must the wages of labor be advanced, and the price of agricultural products be enhanced in value? Depress that labor and your consumption ceases, and it then matters not at what price you can buy. The great secret of prosperity is, that all classes of labor should be employed, and this can only be done by securing to ourselves our *Home Market*—this being protected from all ruinous foreign competition, "every citizen would be left at liberty to select that pursuit which he believed would most contribute to his happiness, and every branch of industry would naturally spring up upon the soil best adapted to it;" and, as we have a world within ourselves, and that very diversity of wants and productions which were intended by the God of nature to unite and bind us together, can we have any apprehensions that all the three great sources of national industry would not prosper—agriculture, commerce and manufactures? With regard to commerce we have only to look to our coasting trade, and compare it with the foreign. It is such a trade as no nation ever before enjoyed—the voyage of one of our rivers being almost equal to a trip across the Atlantic.

The Secretary of the Treasury tells us all this in his famous Texas letter,—“That the foreign consumption of our products is a mere drop in the bucket in comparison with that of the home market—that the aggregate production of the United States by the census of 1840 is, in round numbers, \$1,000,000,000. Our exports of domestic products, by the Treasury Report of 1840, amount to \$103,533,896, deducting which from our whole product by the census of 1840, \$959,600,845, would leave \$856,066,949 of our products consumed in that year, by our population of 17 millions, and the consumption of our domestic products by the population of the world only amounts to \$103,533,896;” and of this eighty per cent. of the whole consisted of cotton, tobacco and rice. But in his recent Report this *far-reaching* Statesman has repudiated this doctrine, and now says, that our agriculture must seek a foreign demand, and that our *Home* market is totally inadequate for the supply of even two States; and where is this market to be found? In *England*—by the repeal of the corn laws. But is it not manifest to the plainest intellect, that the same countries that now supply more than nine tenths of the wheat would continue to do the same, under a less restricted system? The State of Massachusetts alone, took last year



one million of barrels of flour more than the whole export trade of that article from the United States to foreign countries. But it must be recollected that the Secretary does not represent the agricultural interest, strictly speaking, and has no sympathy with it or the labor of the country. He hails from the South. The wages of labor are of little consequence to him, and hence he could not *even* discover that they had advanced since 1842. It is clearly the interest of the cotton and rice planters, that agriculture should be depressed to the *lowest point*, for having a *foreign* demand for all they produce they must be benefited by the *low prices* of agriculture. But is it not unreasonable that the North and great West should be sacrificed to those interests, particularly when they have a demand under any circumstances for their cotton, and enjoy now 80 per cent. of the *whole exports*, whilst their population is not one half of that of the free States.

If the iron master and coal operator is compelled to manufacture iron in competition with England, the wages of labor must be reduced accordingly, "for the only Free Trade sought by England is the free introduction into all the markets of her manufactures, whereby her operators, by their superiority in the art, and *low prices* of wages, will be able to effect the total destruction of all competition." If this is accomplished, the manufacturing industry of three millions in this country must become producers; and what effect will this have upon agriculture? It cannot be better illustrated than by one year's effect of the compromise bill upon the *sugar interest*, by which one hundred and fifty-six sugar estates were turned into rice and cotton fields.

But as the Secretary addresses himself so largely to the poor man, and feels so anxious to attract him to agriculture, and promises him the *English market* for the conversion of his grain into gold untold, this subject is worthy of some further consideration, and we are most happy to give him the experience of a country which has carried out his views to the letter, and is now reaping the bitter fruits, husks instead of golden apples; it is unhappy Ireland. England (says Dr. Kane, on the industrial resources of Ireland, a work of the highest authority and talent,) has always said to Ireland,—“‘You are an agricultural population—we a manufacturing people: your soil and climate fit you for producing corn and cattle, whilst our mines of coal and iron, the sources of our machine power, make us the work-shop of the world; the position of the two Islands is therefore correlative, and naturally advantageous—we send you clothing, and you send us food; from our crowded factories we give you all the products of complex manufacture, and in return we take your corn and cattle, the raw productions



of the soil ;' and what has been the effect of this reciprocal trade ?" Let the same writer answer,—“ That human labor can be obtained in this country (Ireland) on lower terms than almost any other in Europe—a population which is not, as in her sister Kingdom, drafted off to manufacturing employments, must, in order to live, accept of any terms of remuneration which they can get, in exchange for labor. It is thus that 8*d.* and 10*d.* per day is found to be the usual rate of wages at a distance from the large towns, and that *even upon such terms* thousands of men remain unemployed. If money be made in Ireland, it is withdrawn from trade and land is bought, yielding only a small return : but with one advantage, of not requiring intense exertion or intelligence, and free from risk ; but not so in England, which, by her other *industrial pursuits*, has produced the difference between the countries, and left many of our fields in barrenness, our mines unsought, and our power of motion unapplied. So far from there being aught antagonistic between agriculture and manufacture, the former can only be carried on with its best effect where the industrial arts are in a flourishing condition. The farmer requires for his clothing the produce of various manufactures, and for his protection a house made comfortable by the labors of various artizans ; his plough, his machines for winnowing and thrashing, have been invented for him by ingenious machinists. On the other hand, the manufacturer must be fed ; the produce of the farm finds its greatest and readiest sale in the neighboring manufacturing town. The risk of transport to a distance, of sales to strangers, of charge of markets, are all avoided, where domestic industry provides for the farmer purchasers in his own country. No population, that is exclusively devoted to one or other mode of existence, can have a healthy organization or be considered as in a natural state.”

Can more positive authority and *experience* be produced upon any subject than this, for Ireland is a country peculiarly adapted to agriculture, from its extraordinary fertility of soil ? The population of that country, by the census returns of 1841, was—

5,406,746 employed in agriculture, 66 per cent.

1,953,688 in trade and manufactures, 24 “

813,535 otherwise, 9 “

Showing that from the cultivation of the soil more than two-thirds of the entire population are supported, and how awful their condition ? No—if the Secretary sought the prosperity of the West, he would earnestly entreat them to encourage the establishment of manufactures amongst them, and induce the foreign artizans, laborers, spinners, and



tradesmen, to emigrate, as they are daily doing, to our country, and settle in our rich prairies ; not to extend agriculture and become producers, but to erect furnaces and factories whose operatives would eat and consume the produce that is now raised ; for the population employed in agriculture, commerce and planting, is sufficiently large to satisfy the most ardent lover of those interests : being, according to the Honorable Secretary's notions, "our entire population of twenty millions of people—save 400,000." If this were true, it is time to be aroused from our lethargy and foster and encourage a branch of business that will secure us *consumption*. For it is only, as we have said, when the different industrial classes of a nation purchase from *each other*, that there can be prosperity. When either deserts the *home market*, and has recourse to a foreign one, it immediately depresses the labor ; and does not every farmer see this in his daily experience, that, in purchasing foreign manufactures, he is consuming English grain ? that the money which he pays for their cloth, iron, and hardware, they pay again to the English or *foreign* farmer ? During the years 1844 and '45, the importation of iron and steel and hardware each year has exceeded eight millions of dollars per annum, and consequently three fourths of this enormous sum was paid for *English grain* converted into those articles.

But when this same farmer sees a furnace and rolling mill erected in his neighborhood, what is the result ? Do not the laborers of that establishment want his wheat, his rye, his corn, his beef, his pork, his milk, his butter, his eggs, his vegetables, his *wood*, his ore, his limestone ? and do they not give him, hundreds of miles in the interior, a better market than the Atlantic border, and thus save to him the heavy charge of transportation to the sea-board ?

But it is said by the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury, that the *profits* of manufacturers are too great—much more so than that of any of the other branches of national industry. If so, why is it that agriculture and planting have attracted so largely of our population ? and that our emigration still continues rolling on towards the western ocean, and settling our prairies ? We think that it will be found that few fortunes have been realised in manufactures, and that the revulsions of trade have brought down their gains to that of the farmer and planter ; and we now assert, after a long and practical experience in the iron trade, that if a true account could be obtained from all the establishments of this State, for the last twenty years, their profits would not have paid six per cent. upon the capital invested, after deducting the depreciation of the estate. It is true, however, that this has arisen principally from



the frequent and sudden changes in the legislation of the country—one year enacting laws to encourage the iron manufacturer to embark in the business, and in the next by adverse legislation destroying the value of that investment; and this in relation to an article, the manifold uses of which can scarcely be conceived by the human mind, and which contributes more than all the other metals put together to the happiness and comfort of the human family, and for this reason the God of nature has given it in such abundance, and made it available at so small an expense. Every day is extending its use, in building boats, houses, roads, bridges and collieries, and calling for the highest efforts of human skill, and the employment of the largest amount of *labor*. This is beautifully illustrated by a recent estimate of the various processes it passes through, and the value it acquires from labor and mechanical skill. “The quantity of *cast iron* worth £1 sterling becomes worth the following sums :

When converted into ordinary machinery,	. . . . .	£4.00
Large ornamental work,	. . . . .	45.00
Buckles—Berlin work,	. . . . .	660.00
Neck chains,	. . . . .	1386.00
Shirt Buttons,	. . . . .	5896.00

The quantity of *bar iron* worth £1 sterling becomes, when formed into

Horse shoes work,	. . . . .	£2.10
Knives, (table,)	. . . . .	36.00
Needles,	. . . . .	71.00
Penknife blades,	. . . . .	657.00
Polished Buttons and Buckles,	. . . . .	897.00
Balance springs of watches,	. . . . .	50,000.00

And yet it is this business which we are obliged to defend at every step, against the wild legislation of almost every Congress ; and that, too, when our progress has surpassed that of any other country upon the face of the globe. We are *now second* upon the list of nations in the manufacture of iron, and are, from the best estimates we can make, manufacturing about 800,000 tons of iron in the United States—being alongside of the “Industrial Sovereign of the Earth”—*England* ; with her we never can compete (so long as her institutions deny to the labourer a participation in the common comforts of life) without *duties*, for centuries to come. She has perfected every branch of manufacture, and possesses all the requisite skill ; her machinery is all in operation, and her capital unlimited, at the lowest rates. She is a sea-girt Island, and exports her products, with the winds of Heaven, to every quarter of the



globe. We surpass her only in the *energies of our people*, who aspire to every thing that is noble and great in all the pursuits of active life. Our natural associations and education inspire such feelings: our noble rivers and lakes—our vast forests—our lofty chains of mountains—all tell us that we have a great work as a nation to accomplish, in developing them and unfolding their treasures ; and we feel equal to the *task*, if every thing that is *noble and great* in our nature is not broken down by a competition with the degraded labor of foreign countries.

In conclusion, your committee regrets deeply that their limited time would not permit them to give to the subjects referred to them that consideration which they so eminently deserved, nor to present such precise and statistical information as the magnitude and importance of these great branches of domestic industry demanded ; but from the defective nature of their estimates, they are not sorry to avail themselves of this occasion to earnestly press upon this Institution the necessity of preserving their organization, and using every effort to ascertain correctly the statistics in relation to these sources of our national industry. The Government, it is manifest, will do nothing towards organizing a bureau to collect facts and that description of information upon which sound legislation can only be based. It must therefore be procured by the untiring industry of a few individuals, inspiring each other with the proper zeal and persevering in their laudable efforts. We fear that the make of iron has been over-estimated by relying upon official documents ; but, if so, it is the duty of this Institution to have it corrected by the earliest day, and to furnish information from which correct conclusions may be drawn ; all of which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS CHAMBERS, }  
G. N. ECKERT, } Committee.  
SAMUEL J. REEVES, }





